



February 18, 2025

To: Representative John Lively, Chair, House Climate, Energy, and Environment Committee
Representative Bobby Levy, Vice Chair, House Climate, Energy, and Environment Committee
Representative Mark Gamba, Vice Chair, House Climate, Energy, and Environment Committee
Members of the House Climate, Energy, and Environment Committee
From: Emily Griffith, Oregon Policy Manager, Renewable Northwest

Re: HB 2062 on Battery Recycling: Neutral and Requesting Amendments

Chair Lively, Vice Chair Levy, Vice Chair Gamba, and Members of the Committee;

Renewable Northwest ("RNW") is a regional, non-profit renewable energy advocacy organization based in Oregon, dedicated to decarbonizing the electricity grid by accelerating the use of renewable electricity resources. Our membership includes renewable energy developers, battery developers and manufacturers, environmental organizations, and consumer advocates. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 2062 as neutral with a request for clarifying amendments.

Based on our conversation with the Chief Sponsor and bill proponents, Renewable Northwest understands HB 2062 is intended to apply to the producers of consumer and household batteries. However, as currently written, there are ambiguities around the *exemption* of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS), which are large, utility-scale batteries.

RNW is requesting an amendment that clarifies the exemption of BESS from HB 2062 by including the definition of BESS from ORS 469.300 that was defined in HB 4015, passed in the 2024 Session.

As defined in HB 4015, "battery energy storage system" means an energy storage system that, other than for personal, noncommercial use:

- (a) Collects energy from the electric grid or an energy generation facility;
- (b) Uses rechargeable batteries to retain and store the energy for a period of time; and
- (c) Discharges the energy after storage to provide electricity when needed.

BESS are utility scale batteries that are either stand-alone or co-located with generating resources like wind or solar. They usually charge during off-peak hours when electricity prices are lower and discharge energy when power is not available from the grid, such as during power outages, or during peak charge periods - helping to stabilize the grid.

This is much different than consumer and household batteries. In order to be sited either by the local county or state energy facility siting council, BESS facilities are required to include a decommissioning plan to prepare for their end of life.

We appreciate the opportunity to work on these amendments and we appreciate the Chief Sponsor's and bill proponent's consideration of a BESS exemption. Thank you for your time.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Emily Griffith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "E" and "G".

Emily Griffith
Oregon Policy Manager
Renewable Northwest